

## Truman Resupplies in Mediterranean



Truman pulls alongside the USNS Supply (T-AOE 6) to conduct a replenishment-at-sea in the Mediterranean. Photo by MCSA Isaac Esposito

Story by MCSN Thomas R. Pittman

**T**ruman completed a RAS with USNS Supply on Dec. 6 in the Mediterranean Sea.

During the RAS, Sailors performed various line handling evolutions along the starboard side of the ship.

On the whistle command, gunner's mates fired a modified M-14 rifle to launch a shot line attached to a messenger line to the supply ship, said GM3 Garrett Fonger, a deck department 2nd division Sailor.

Once the initial lines were across, Sailors heaved additional lines, typically three-strand nylon, and secured the lines to various fuel pumps or cargo rigs.

"We take in all the lines, fake them down, try to keep it out of the way, that way when we are done, we can send it back," said Seaman Elijah Farrington, a deck department 1st division Sailor. "It's a fast and easy process."

Each line had unique job in the evolution and served a purpose.

"We have the span wire, the high line, and

the messenger line," said Farrington. "The high line, which is used for fueling, and the span wire, which is used for cargo, are for the surf blocks to ride on while transporting all the cargo and fuel over from their ship to our ship."

Once the resupply is completed, the lines were detached or cut and sent back to the supply ship.

Line handling during a RAS comes with a certain amount of risk.

"There is a lot that can go wrong," said Fonger. "The biggest concern for resupply is the span wire. If it breaks, it will come snapping back with no control, due to the fact that it is just a metal line under tension. Line handlers have to be mindful of the snapback zones, and riggers face the most immediate danger, since they are standing right next to the rig."

When the ships begin to detach, line handlers have to be careful or they could be in danger of getting dragged into the water. ●



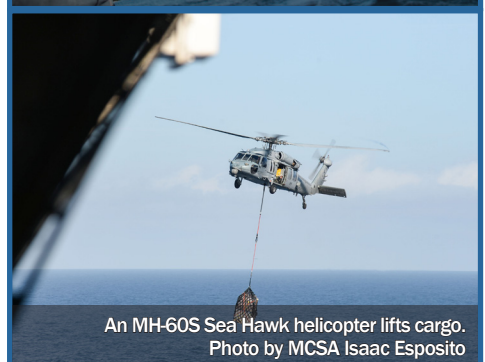
BMSN Campech Cruz moors a messenger line on a fuel receiving station. Photo by MCSA Isaac Esposito



GMSN Micah Wanner left, watches as GM2 Mason Forth shoots a shot line from the flight deck. Photo by MC3 Kaysee Lohmann



GM3 Vincent Greco fires a shot line from a fuel receiving station. Photo by MC3 Victoria Sutton



An MH-60S Sea Hawk helicopter lifts cargo. Photo by MCSA Isaac Esposito



## DAILY SCHEDULE

0530 SPIN AND SPRINT

0830 HARDCORE SPINNING

1630 FITBOSS CONDITIONING

1900 SOUL CYCLE

2100 CONNEX BOX

*DON'T STOP, GET IT GET IT!*

funboss

## PHOTO OF THE DAY



An MH-60S Sea Hawk helicopter flies past QM3 Sierra Hayes as she stands lookout watch on the signal bridge.  
Photo by MCSA Isaac Esposito

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## Fast Roping EOD Training Exercise Lands on Truman



Sailors, assigned to Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 12, wait to board an MH-60S Sea Hawk helicopter.

Story and photos by MC3 Kaysee Lohmann

Sailors assigned to Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit (EODMU) 12 practiced a fast rope and rappelling exercise on the flight deck Dec. 6.

The exercise was practice for one of the many methods explosive ordnance disposal technicians use in order to do their jobs out in the fleet.

"It's a method of insertion," said EOD2 Jeff Mevers, a helicopter rope suspension technique/cast master, and one of the Sailors who coordinated the exercise. "If there's an area where they can't land a helicopter, such as a rooftop or a city street, we have this technique, so we can rope down to the area to do our job."

The training consisted of the team of Sailors boarding an MH-60S Sea Hawk helicopter provided by the "Dragon Slayers" of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 11 before hovering over the flight deck and sliding down on ropes using only their hands and feet, and special uniform gear.

"Our main mission as EODs is the protection of personnel and property," said Mevers. "Anything explosive that could damage property, disrupt a military operation, or put lives in danger, it's our job to get rid of it and make things safe so we can continue our mission."

EOD2 Joey Cordero, also an HRST/cast master, and the other Sailor who coordinated the exercise, said the training exercise helped keep them prepared for when they might be called upon.



Sailors practice fast roping from a MH-60S Sea Hawk helicopter.

"You want it to become muscle memory, so in order to keep things that way, you have to keep requalifying through these exercises," said Cordero. "It helps keep us capable, so we can do our job when they need us to."

Both Cordero and Mevers received special training to learn how to coordinate the fast rope and rappelling exercise at the HRST/Cast Master Course of Instruction at Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story.

"It gave us the qualifications to set up the helicopters and get our other guys safely trained up on the exercise," said Cordero.

Training exercises such as these take delicate planning and coordination.

"We met with the XO and gave him a

mission brief," said Cordero. "We tell him what we need to do to stay qualified, how many iterations of the roping and rappelling we need to do, what equipment we need, and then we go back and tell the rest of the guys how the brief went."

Despite it taking heavy coordination and being a high-risk exercise, the EOD team enjoyed it.

"It's a great way for us to get out and just stay current and proficient in what we do," said Mevers. "It's a good way to show off what we do because not a lot of people know who we are, and it's cool to have people come up to us afterward and ask us questions about the exercise and what we do."



# Coast Guard, Navy Boats Collide in Alaska; 9 Injured

From Associated Press

A U.S. Coast Guard vessel collided with a U.S. Navy boat, injuring nine people, including one critically, off Alaska's Kodiak Island.

The accident occurred Wednesday evening in Women's Bay near Kodiak's Coast Guard base, said Lt. Comm. Scott McCann, a Coast Guard Alaska District spokesman in Juneau.

A Coast Guard 38-foot (11.6-meter) special purpose training boat had just completed a helicopter hoist training session with aircraft from the agency's air base, McCann said. Training sessions are aimed at maintaining pilot proficiency for search and rescue missions.

"They had just completed training with the air station and were headed back home," McCann said.

The boat collided with a Navy vessel of about the same size, McCann said. The vessels were not training together.

The Kodiak Coast Guard Base is the nation's largest and was home to 1,100 active duty members as of 2018. The base conducts missions connected to search and rescue, buoy tending and oversight of the North Pacific fishing fleet.

The Navy vessel in the collision was a "combatant craft medium" used by Naval Special Warfare personnel, said Navy spokesman Lt. Matt Stroup. The Navy uses facilities on Kodiak for cold weather training of special warfare personnel, which includes Navy SEALs and supporting forces.

The Navy vessel is a reconfigurable multi-mission boat primarily used to deliver and support special operation forces, Stroup said. The approximately 60-foot (18.3-meter) boat can carry 19 special operations personnel.

Stroup could not comment on which Navy personnel were training Wednesday.

Details of the collision have not been released and will be the subject of an investigation. Both boats were damaged but able to return to port. ●

For more of this story,  
visit [associatedpressnews.com](http://associatedpressnews.com)

## The Truman Show



Channel 6

## ESWS Question of the Day

What repair locker is  
designated as backup to  
Damage Control Central?



Answer: Repair Locker 3

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## This Day in Naval History

**1933** - Secretary of the Navy establishes Fleet Marine Force, integrating a ready-to-deploy Marine force with own aircraft into Fleet organization.

**1941** - U.S. declares war on Japan.

**1941** - USS Wake (PR-3), a river gunboat moored at Shanghai, is the only U.S. vessel to surrender during World War II.

**1942** - Eight PT boats (PT 36, PT 37, PT 40, PT 43, PT 44, PT 48, PT 59, and PT 109) turn back 8 Japanese destroyers attempting to reinforce Japanese forces on Guadalcanal.

"Study while others are sleeping; work while others are loafing; prepare while others are playing; and dream while others are wishing."

-William Arthur Ward



## Monday, 08 December 2019

TRUFLIX	TIME	CH. 7	CH. 8 (Intermittent Operation)	TIME	CH. 10
	0700/1500/2300	How to be Single	I Feel Pretty	0700/1900	First Man
	0900/1700/0100	<i>The Lion King (2019)</i>	The Commuter	1000/2200	<i>Joker</i>
	1100/1900/0300	Annihilation	Deepwater Horizon	1300/0100	Den of Thieves
	1300/2100/0500	Going in Style	Elvis and Nixon	1600/0400	John Wick: Chapter 2